

Maryland Historical Trust

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Survey No. 4648

1. Name

Historic 1700-1714 North Dallas Street
and / common

2. Location

street & number 1700-1714 North Dallas Street
city, town Baltimore
state & zip code Maryland 21205 county

3. Classification

Category

☐ district
☒ building(s)
☐ structure
☐ site
☐ object

Ownership

☐ public
☒ private
☐ both

Public Acquisition

☐ in process
☐ being considered
☐ not applicable

Status

☒ occupied
☐ unoccupied
☐ work in progress

Accessible

☒ yes: restricted
☐ yes: unrestricted
☐ no

Present Use

☐ agriculture
☐ commercial
☐ educational
☐ entertainment
☐ government
☐ industrial
☐ military
☐ museum
☐ park
☒ private residence
☐ religious
☐ scientific
☐ transportation
☐ other:

4. Owner of Property

name
street & number telephone
city, town state & zip code

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Baltimore City Land Records liber
street & number Clarence Mitchell Courthouse folio
city, town Baltimore State Maryland

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title
date federal state county local
depository for survey records
city, town state & zip code

7. Description

Condition

☐ excellent
☐ good
☐ fair

☐ deteriorated
☐ ruins
☐ unexposed

Check One

☐ unaltered
☒ altered

Check One

☒ original site
☐ moved:
 date of move: _____

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

This row of eight two-story, two-bay wide vernacular Queen Anne-style brick houses with shed roofs and sheet metal and stepped brick cornices were built in 1892-93 by Steptoe Hutt, a prolific builder of working class houses in East Baltimore. After the use of wood was outlawed for cornices in 1892, sheet metal and stepped-back bricks became the predominant materials used. This decorative brickwork represents vernacular translations of high-style Queen Anne designs first seen in Baltimore c. 1880. All of the houses retain their original brick facades, which have all been painted.

The houses are two stories in height, 12' 5" wide, and occupy lots 60' deep. Each house is three small rooms deep. The houses are constructed in running bond and were originally painted and triped. Each house has a single hooded chimney located near the front and rear of the house. The shed roof is capped by a sheet metal cornice set above a frieze created by three rows of stretcher bricks set above units of four rows of progressively recessed stretchers, framed by five rows of progressively recessed header bricks.

The door and window openings have segmentally arched brick lintels, composed of double rows of headers, and once had scroll-sawn tympanums, as can still be seen on the basement windows. The sills are wood. Some of the original 4/4 sash remain. The doorways have single-light transoms and show a variety of replacement door types. The houses sit on fairly low basements lit by a double-light sash. The replacement doors (no original doors remain) are reached by three or four concrete, brick, or iron steps, some set parallel to the facade, with iron railings.

8. Significance

| Period | Area of significance | check one & justify | | | |
|---|--|--|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> community planning | <input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> religion | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499 | <input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic | <input type="checkbox"/> conservation | <input type="checkbox"/> law | <input type="checkbox"/> science | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599 | <input type="checkbox"/> agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> economics | <input type="checkbox"/> literature | <input type="checkbox"/> sculpture | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> education | <input type="checkbox"/> military | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> social/ | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799 | <input type="checkbox"/> art | <input type="checkbox"/> engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> music | <input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899 | <input type="checkbox"/> commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> exploration | <input type="checkbox"/> philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> theatre | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1900 | <input type="checkbox"/> communications | <input type="checkbox"/> industry | <input type="checkbox"/> politics/government | <input type="checkbox"/> transportation | |
| | | <input type="checkbox"/> invention | | <input type="checkbox"/> other: specify | |

Specific dates 1892-93

Builder/Architect Steptoe Hutt

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

This group of houses is significant as representing a very plain type of small street house that was often constructed to serve as rental housing for the working class residents of the area, most of whom were German at the time of construction. The houses were built by Steptoe Hutt, a well-known Baltimore builder, according to a pattern that was quite common to the city's working class neighborhoods of the period c. 1880 to 1910. Recognizing that workers held different levels of jobs (and pay), builders created a hierarchy of two-story house sizes (and prices) in the new neighborhoods going up to serve the expanding factory districts ringing the harbor and north- east of the central city. Builders acquired anywhere from an eighth to a half of a city block and built 14' to 15'-wide two-story houses on the main streets, and smaller, 11' to 13'-wide two-story houses on the narrower streets bisecting the blocks. Typically, in this period, main street houses might sell for \$1,200 - \$1,500; small street houses for \$500-\$600. Occasionally, the builder retained ownership of his small street houses to provide income for himself as rental properties. In this way people of varying means could afford to live in the same block. If they couldn't afford the approximately \$750 purchase price of the small street houses, then they *could* afford the \$8 or so a month it would cost to rent one, while they saved to be able to buy their own home later.

In this particular case Hutt built all of the two story houses on the southwest corner of the city block, with those on Caroline St. being 15'6" and 16' wide while those on Dallas were only 12' wide. In this case, however, Hutt sold many of the Dallas St. houses to owner-occupants for \$600 (with \$32.50 ground rents), most of whom were German and who received mortgages from various German-American building and loans. Early owners included John C. Bauer, who received his mortgage from the 21st German-American Building Association and Louis Mellin, who received his mortgage from the 22nd German American Building Association. Bauer received a \$416 advance on two shares and was obligated to pay \$1 as weekly dues and "the further weekly sum of 48 cents as weekly premium on every Monday evening."¹

¹ BCLR, JB 1487/370.

9. Major Bibliographic References

Mary Ellen Hayward and Charles Belfoure, *The Baltimore Rowhouse*
(New York: Princeton Architectural Press, 1999)

10. Geographic Data

Acreage of nominated property

Quadrangle name

Verbal boundary description and justification

11. Form Prepared by

name / title Dr. Mary Ellen Hayward

Organization The Alley House Project

date June 2000

street & number 1306 Carrollton Ave.

telephone

city, town Baltimore

state & zip code Maryland 21204

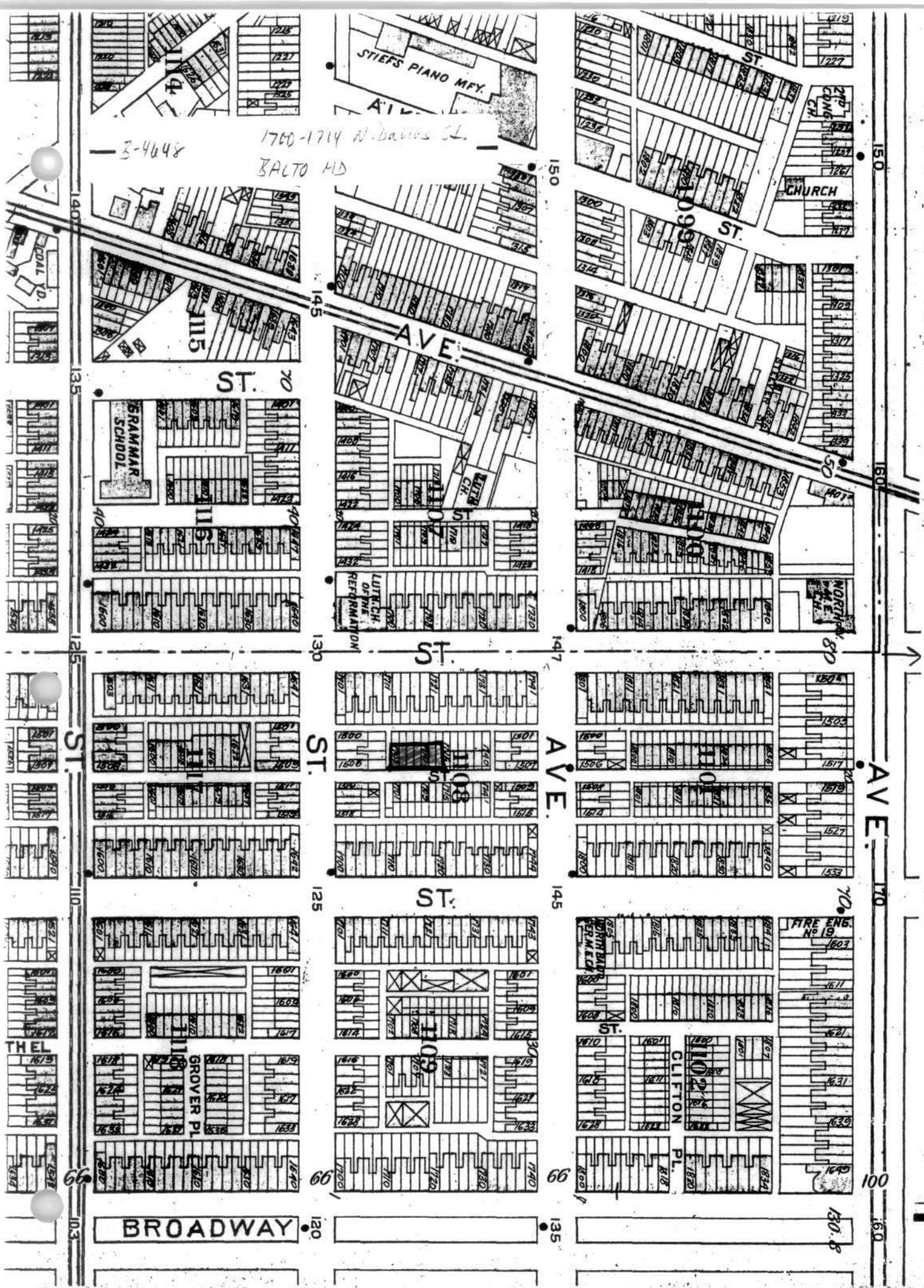
The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of property rights.

Return to:
DHCP/DHCD
Maryland Historical Trust
100 Community Place
Crownsville MD 21032-2023

1906 City Atlas

PLANT 9



B-4648
1700-1714 N. Dallas Street
Block 1108
Baltimore City
Baltimore East Quad.

